

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yutaka SATOH
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING MEDIATOR SERVICES
BETWEEN SERVICE PROVIDER AND SERVICE PURCHASER,
AND COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR SAME
Appl. No.: To be assigned
Filing Date: May 25, 2001
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicant respectfully requests that the following amendment be entered into the application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 23 as follows:

23. (Amended) The program product as defined in Claim 20, wherein said program product further comprises the steps of:

- (i) enabling said mediator server to generate a registration number to be assigned to said service provider prior to recording said service offering registration information on said database, to record the generated service provider registration number together with said service offering registration information said database, and to send said service provider registration number to said provider terminal; and
- (j) enabling said mediator server to generate a registration number to be assigned to said service purchaser prior to recording said purchaser identification information on said database, to record the generated service purchaser registration number together with

said purchaser identification information on said database, and to send said service purchaser registration number to said purchaser terminal.

Please add the following new claim:

24. (New) The program product as defined in Claim 21, wherein said program product further comprises the steps of:

(i) enabling said mediator server to generate a registration number to be assigned to said service provider prior to recording said service offering registration information on said database, to record the generated service provider registration number together with said service offering registration information said database, and to send said service provider registration number to said provider terminal; and

(j) enabling said mediator server to generate a registration number to be assigned to said service purchaser prior to recording said purchaser identification information on said database, to record the generated service purchaser registration number together with said purchaser identification information on said database, and to send said service purchaser registration number to said purchaser terminal.

MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIMS:

23. (Amended) The program product as defined in Claim 20 **[or 21]**, wherein said program product further comprises the steps of:

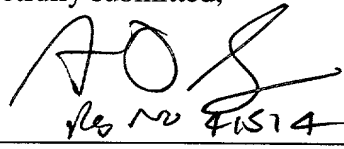
(i) enabling said mediator server to generate a registration number to be assigned to said service provider prior to recording said service offering registration information on said database, to record the generated service provider registration number together with said service offering registration information said database, and to send said service provider registration number to said provider terminal; and

(j) enabling said mediator server to generate a registration number to be assigned to said service purchaser prior to recording said purchaser identification information on said database, to record the generated service purchaser registration number together with said purchaser identification information on said database, and to send said service purchaser registration number to said purchaser terminal.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendment to Claims 23 and therefore the adding of new claim 24, be entered in order to avoid this application incurring a surcharge for the presence of one or more multiple dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of David A. Blumenthal in black ink, appearing as 'AOS' with a flourish, and the registration number '26,257' written below it.

By _____

Date May 25, 2001

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